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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,678	02/04/2004	David Y. Jackson	P1778RIC2	5556
9157	7590	06/10/2005		
EXAMINER				
DAVIS, ZINNA NORTHINGTON				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1625				

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/772,678	JACKSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Zinna Northington Davis	1625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 April 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2,5,6,9,10,13-19 and 25-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,13,14,18 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 5, 9, 10, 15-19, 25, and 26 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>02/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13-19, and 25-29 are pending. Claims 3, 4, 11, 12, and 20-24 have been cancelled.
2. In the response filed April 11, 2005, Applicants have elected the invention of Group I (claims 1-22) and the species of example 023. The election is made without traverse.
3. The elected species does not find support at claim 1. Y does not represent -OH. However, the examination of the elected species and other related species to determine patentability has been established. An action on the merits follows below.
4. Claim 6 is drawn to a non-elected invention.
5. Applicants are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently filed petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(h).
6. Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 13-19, and 25-29 are Markush claims which are generic to the elected invention. These Markush claims lack unity of invention. Accordingly, the Markush type claim will be examined fully with respect to the elected species and further to the extent necessary to determine patentability. See MPEP 803.02.
7. Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 13-19, and 25-29 are objected on the grounds that the claims are drawn to an improper Markush group. In re Harnisch, 206 USPQ 300, states

Art Unit: 1625

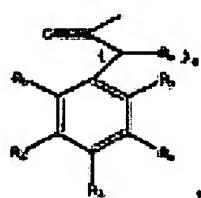
that a unity of invention exists where compounds included within a Markush group (1) share a common utility and (2) share a substantial structural feature disclosed as being essential to that utility. In the instant case, the claimed subject matter does not share a substantial structural feature disclosed as being essential to that utility.

The requirement for a proper Markush claim is that it includes only substances that in their physical, chemical and physiological characteristics are functionally equivalent. The members of the instant Markush groups possess widely different, physical and chemical properties. The compounds are not considered functionally equivalent and are so diverse that they demonstrate dissimilar and unrelated properties. The mere fact that there is structural similarity in pharmaceutical agents is not in itself reason to render all the embodiments functionally equivalent.

The improper Markush groups are X_1 and A.

8. The examined subject matter is as follows:

A compound of formula I where X_1 is $-C(O)NR_aR_b$; R_a and R_b together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a heterocycl or heteroaryl group; A has the structure:



Amending the claims to the examined subject matter would overcome the improper Markush rejection. The examined subject matter is deemed allowable. However, if the

Art Unit: 1625

search was extended beyond the elected species the following rejections are applicable.

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claims 1, 2, and 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

A. At claims 1 and 2, a new claim set is needed. The radicals are difficult to read.

B. Claims 27 and 28 improperly depend upon claim 1. Based upon the definition of Y, Y cannot represent -OH. See the elected species.

B. At claims 28 and 29, a period is needed at the end of the claim. Clarification is appreciated.

11. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

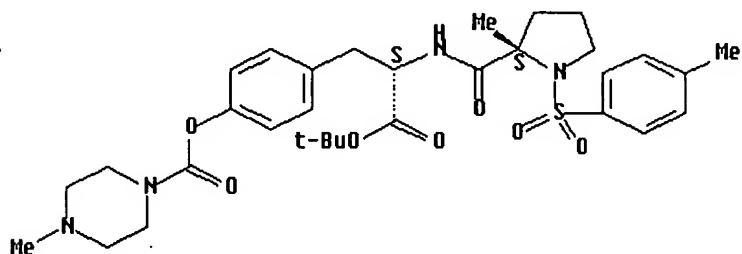
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

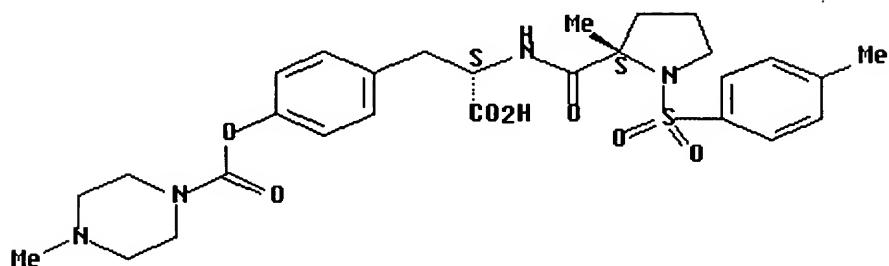
12. Claims 1, 13, 14, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Athena Neurosciences, Inc. (Reference N).

Art Unit: 1625

The instantly claimed compounds are disclosed. At page 114, see example 47 which is depicted below:



At page 115, see example 49 which is depicted below:



13. Claims 5, 9, 10, 15-17, 25, and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

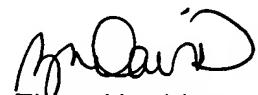
14. The Information Disclosure Statements filed February 2, 2004 has been considered.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zinna Northington Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-0682.

16. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications.

17. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1600.

18. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Zinna Northington Davis
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1625

Znd
06.07. 2005